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TIMBER PRODUCTION IMPROVES;
TOMSK LOGGING STILL LAGS

TOMSK OBLAST SECOND LARGEST SIBERIAN TIMBER PRODUCER -- Izvestiya, No 169, 20 Jul 49

Timber is the basic resource of Tomsk Oblast. There are 23 logging and floating enterprises of the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR and six enterprises of the Local Fuel Industry USSR operating in Tomsk Oblast. The oblast is the basic source of supply of mine supports for the Kuznetsk Basin. Thousands of carloads of commercial timber logged by Tomsk timber managements are sent to Central Asia and the treeless regions of Western Siberia. Among the krais and oblasts of Siberia and the Far East, Tomsk Oblast is the second largest producer of timber.

The Five-Year Plan provided that by 1950, the volume of logging in Tomsk Oblast would be more than 100 percent greater than in 1940. Last winter, the volume of logging exceeded the 1940 level.

There are, however, some shortcomings in the Tomsk timber industry. "Tomsk" (Tomsk Timber) Trust logging enterprises are not adequately utilizing new techniques and tractors.

The Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR and some other ministries have failed to solve some extremely important problems in connection with logging. More than 70 percent of all timber is logged in the northern rayons of the oblast and in the Chulym River basin. Most of this timber must be shipped by the river fleet. For the second year, the Ministry of River Fleet USSR has failed to meet its timber shipment plan, and a considerable amount of the commercial timber still remains at river assembly points.

Each year, the river fleet and the railroads expend enormous resources in unproductive shipments of uncut timber. This could be obviated by establishing large sawmills in the northern part of the oblast. Despite the decision of the government to do so, the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry is delaying their construction. Construction of a new sawmill at Mogochin has not yet begun. The question of building a sawmill at Kargash has not yet been decided.

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The wage system for paying lumberjacks must be improved. Workers using hand saws are now paid more than those operating electric saws. This system hinders the introduction of new and improved machines. -- D. Filimonov, chairman, executive committee, Tomsk Oblast Soviet of Workers' Deputies

LITHUANIAN TIMBER TRUST COMPLETES FIVE-YEAR PLAN -- Sovetskaya Litva, No 169, 20 Jul 49

Timber managements of the "Vil'nia" (Vil'nyus Timber) Trust have completed the Five-Year Plan in respect to volume of production. The trust has also completed its program for shipping timber supports to Donbass coal mines. The trust, in exceeding its half-year plan, produced 15,000 cubic meters of commercial timber above plan.

NEW SAWMILL IN ARKHANGEL'SK -- Kresnyy Flot, No 175, 27 Jul 49

A new sawmill is being built in Maymaki, the industrial region of Arkhangel'sk. The mill is equipped with seven pneumatically controlled gang saws and has a storage pond.

LARGE TIMBER RAFT REACHES STALINGRAD -- Pravda, No 208, 27 Jul 49

The steamship Kirov arrived recently in Stalingrad with a timber raft containing 44,000 cubic meters of timber. The raft was almost $\frac{1}{2}$ kilometer long and more than 150 meters wide. To transport the same amount of timber by railroad would require 40 trains.

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